

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Two (2) attached sheets of drawing include changes to Fig. 9 and Fig. 13. The changes to these Figures are as follows.

Sheet 1 includes Fig. 9 – Please change the reference sign “33a” to --30a --.

Sheet 2 includes Fig. 13 – Please change the reference sign “32b” to --33b --

REMARKS

This is in full and timely response to the Official Action mailed March 21, 2006. Reconsideration and reexamination are respectfully considered.

Specification

The specification is amended to correct minor grammatical and typographical errors.

Information Disclosure Statement

It is noted with appreciation that the Information Disclosure Statement filed on December 17, 2004 has been considered by the Examiner.

Claim to Priority

It is also noted with appreciation that the certified copies of the priority documents have been received and acknowledged by the Examiner.

Claims

Claims 1 and 2 are pending in the application.

The Office Action indicates that oath/declaration is defective because it appears that information is missing regarding the other joint inventors. It is respectfully submitted that oath/declaration is not defective because the present invention was invented by a sole inventor. Therefore, there is no missing information regarding the other joint inventors. Applicant welcomes the Examiner's suggestions for further action regarding this issue.

The Office Action objects to the drawings under 37 CFR 1.83 (a) because the drawings allegedly fail to show "signal writing means for writing a signal to a recording media and/or signal reading means for reading a signal from the recording media, provided within said body". Such feature has been canceled from claim 1. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

The drawings are also objected to because of inconsistent reference sign in Figures 9 in 13. The attached Replacement Drawing Figure 9 changes "33a." to "30a" and the attached

Replacement Drawing Figure 13 replaces "32b" to "33b". Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because it includes legal phraseology. The abstract is amended as indicated above to obviate the objection. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

The disclosure is objected to because of informalities in the replacement paragraph beginning on page 7, line 24, as provided in the Preliminary Amendment filed on October 15, 2003. As indicated above in the amendments to the specification, the replacement paragraph has been amended and the feature in line 5 of claim 4, now incorporated into amended claim 1, has also been amended to obviate the objection. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

The Office Action advises that the lengthy specification has not been checked to determine the presence of all possible minor errors. As indicated above, the specification is amended to correct such minor errors.

Claims 3 and 4 are rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. The features of claims 3 and 4, now incorporated into amended claim 1, are amended to obviate the rejection. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by Saganuma et al. (JP 08-255396). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the features of claims 3 and 4. It is respectfully submitted that the rejection is improper because the applied art fails to teach each element of claim 1 as now amended with the features of claims 3 and 4, now canceled. As a result, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1 is allowable over the applied art.

Claim 2 depends from claim 1 and includes all of the features of claim 1. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that that claim 2 is allowable at least for the reason claim 1 is allowable as well as for the features it recites.

Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 3 and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Saganuma in view of Suzuki (JP 029279). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 3 and 4 are canceled and therefore the rejection as applied thereto is now moot.

As mentioned above, the features of claims of 3 and 4 are now incorporated into amended claim 1. With regard to Suzuki, it is respectfully submitted that Suzuki fails to teach or

suggest an engaging projection. More specifically, as described in the specification on page 16, line 9, and in Figure 7, the engaging projection 23 is a trapezoidal shape as viewed from the side and has a central horizontal part 23a, a front-side inclined surface 23b extending downward from the end of the horizontal part 23a, and a rear-side inclined surface 23c extending downward to the rear from the rear end of the horizontal part 23a. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that none of the applied art, alone or in combination, teaches or suggests the features of claim 1 as mentioned immediately above. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that one of ordinary skill in the art would not be motivated to combine the features of the applied art because such combination would not result in the claimed invention. As a result, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1 is allowable over the combination of applied art of over Suganuma in view of Suzuki.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration of the application and allowance of the pending claims are respectfully requested. Should the Examiner believe anything further is desirable in order to place the application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' representative at the telephone number listed below.

Should additional fees be necessary in connection with the filing of this paper or if a Petition for Extension of Time is required for timely acceptance of the same, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 18-0013 for any such fees and Applicant(s) hereby petition for such extension of time.

Dated: May 11, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By _____
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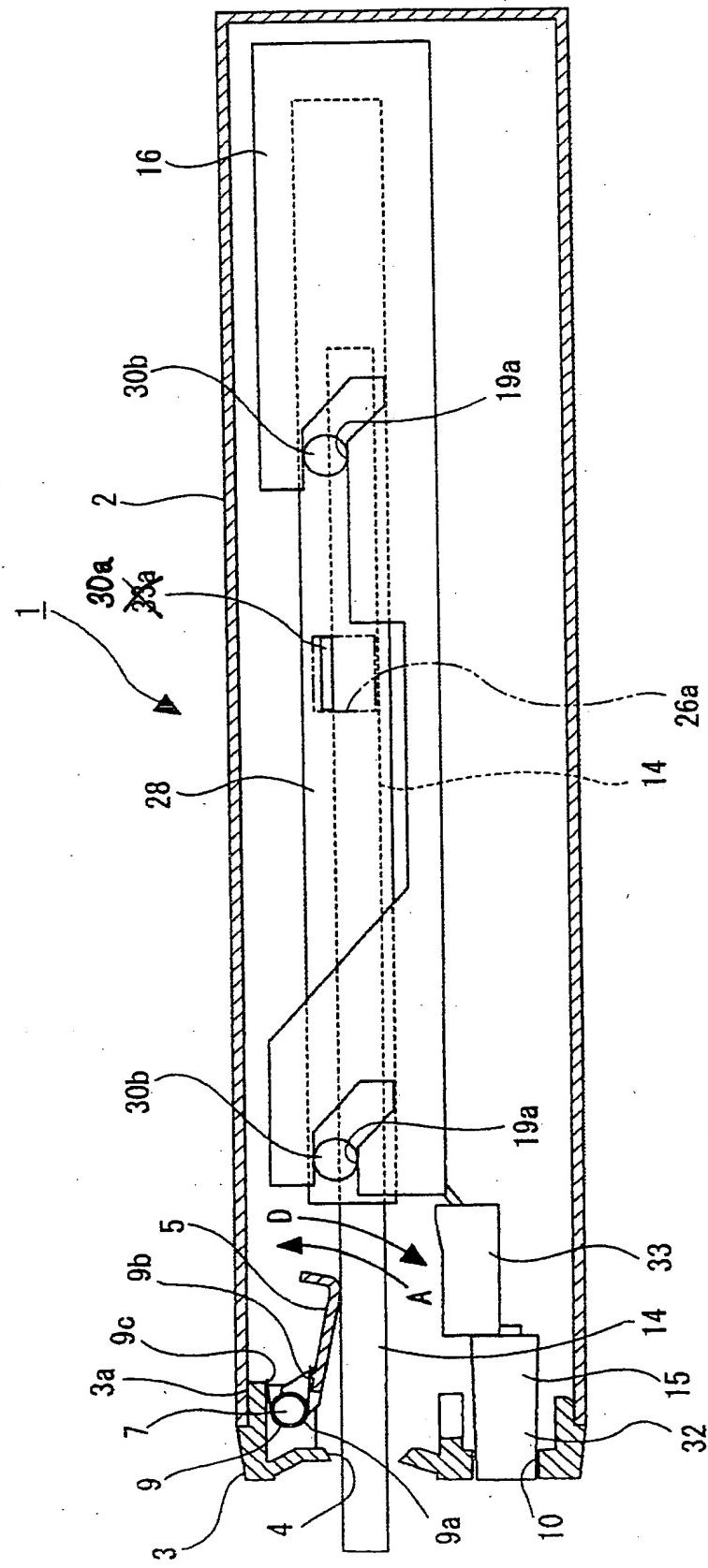
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Enclosures: Replacement Drawing Figs. 9 and 13

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FIG.



12/12

FIG.12

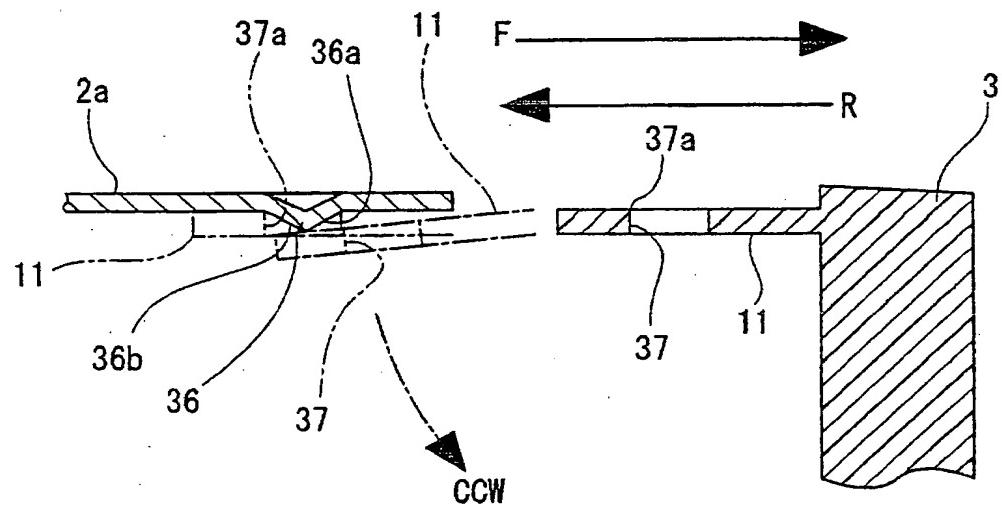


FIG.13

